Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINR, PINT, PGOV, IT

SUBJECT: DE CAROLIS CAPTURES MILAN DC

SUMMARY. IN A NO SURPRISE CITY DC PARTY CONVENTION NOV 20-21, CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT'S LEADING VOTE-GETTER, DEPUTY DECAROLIS, ROLLED OVER ALL OPPOSITION TO CAPTURE UNDISPUTED CONTROL OF THE IMPORTANT CITY ORGANIZATION. MAJOR IMPORTANCE OF HIS SUCCESS IS BRIDGEHEAD IT GIVES CENTER AND RIGHT TO RE-CAPUTRE POWERFUL PROVINCIAL ORGANIZATION NOW CONTROLLED BY DC LEFT AT UPCOMING DEC 4-5 CONVENTION.

- 1. WHILE DECAROLIS SUCCESS EASILY FORESEEN FROM WARD ELECTIONS, PROPORTION OF VICTORY AND CLIMATE WORTH REPORTING.
- 2. IN EVERY POLITICAL PARTY, PERSONAL RIVALRIES INTERTWINED WITH DIFFERENCES ON ISSUES. AT THIS IMPORTANT PERSONAL LEVEL SEVERAL OLD ISSUES RANKLED DEEPLY. FIRST, DEFECTION OF DC CITY COUNCIL MEN OGLIARI AND SIRTONI WHO JOINED PSIPCI CITY GOVERNMENT IS RED FLAG TO ALL FACTIONS WHICH ROARED CONDEMNATION AT MENTION (MILAN'S 75 MILAN 1381). SECOND, LEFT WING'S (BASE) MIDNIGHT ERASURE OF CONSERVATIVE GINO COLOMBO FROM PARLIAMENTARY TICKET LAST JUNE (MILAN'S 1'89) HAS BEEN NEITHER FORGOTTEN NOR FORGIVEN. THIRD, MASSIMO DECAROLIS IS MAN OF THE HOUR--BESEIGED BY THE PRESS, SOUGHT BY DELEGATES, CONFIDENTIAL

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BUSY DIRECTING CONVENTION FROM FLOOR, THE ONLY SPEAKER ABLE TO

FILL HALL, COMMAND ABSOLUTE SILENCE AND PRECIPITATE UPROAR.

- 3. BEYOND RIVALRY TO CONTROL PARTY AND ENDLESS SELF CRITICISM FOR ORGANIZATIONAL WEAKNESS, MAIN ISSUE WAS HOW BEST COPE WITH COMMUNISTS.
- 4. VICTORS, BY WIDE MARGIN, WERE THOSE OPPOSED TO INCLUDING PCI IN LOCAL, REGIONAL OR NATIONAL GOVERNMENT OR ACCEPTING PROGRAM COORDINATION WITH THEM AS IN REGION OF LOMBARDY (MILAN'S 2344). AND FAVORABLE TO REVIVAL OF ALLIANCE WITH SOCIALISTS AND OTHER LAY PARTIES. ONLY ADVOCATES OF LIMITED COOPERATION WERE MEMBERS LEFT WING (BASE) FACTION WHICH CURRENTLY CONTROLS PROVINCIAL AND REGIONAL DC PARTY BUT WHICH TOOK LICKING AT CITY CONVENTION.
- 5. FOR COGNOSCENTI, FACTIONAL BREAKDOWN OF 49 MEMBER CITY COMMITTEE IELC DECAROLIS "MODERATES" 33 SEATS FORZE NUOVE, COMMUONE AND LIBERATION, MAZZOTTA (EX-BASE) 14 SEATS BASE 2 SEATS.9

SINCE SIMPLE MAJORITY WINS 33 SEATS, MINORTY NEGOTIATED

SHARING OF REMAINING (169 SEATS.

- 6. APART FROM FURTHER ENHANCEMENT OF REFORMER DECAROLIS'
 POSITION, OUTCOME WAS SOME REVENGE FOR GINO COLOMBO ALTHOUGH
 HE APPEARS LARGELY SIDE LINED AND NOTABLY IMPROVED OUTLOOK
 FOR RECAPTURE OF PROVINCIAL PARTY BY COALITION OF DECAROLIS,
 VITTORINO COLOMBO AND COMUNIONE AND LIBERAZIONE FROM BASE
 FACTION LED IN LOMBARDY BY MIN OF AGRI GIOVANNI MARCORA,
 RADICAL DC LEFTIST LUIGI GRANELLI AND PIERO BASSETTI. SHOULD
 CENTER AND RIGHT SUCCEED IN REGAINING PROVINCE OF MILAN,
 A NEW SET OF SIGNALS WILL GO UP ALL THROUGH THE NORTH POINTING
 TO A HARDENING OF DC ATTITUDES TOWARD COOPERATING WITH THE
 COMMUNISTS.
- 7. THE OBSERVER IS HARD PUT TO JUDGE WHETHER THERE ARE NEW FACES AND FRESH BOLOOD. HE IS MORE STRUCK BY FAMILIAR FACES AND NAMES. BUT NEW OR OLD, THE EMERGENT MAN TO BE CONJURED WITH IN THE MILAN CITY DC IS DECAROLIS.FINA CONFIDENTIAL

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Subject: DE CAROLIS CAPTURES MILAN DC SUMMARY. IN A NO SURPRISE CITY DC PARTY CONVENTION NOV 20-21, CHRISTIAN

DEMOCRAT'S LEADING VOTE-GETTER, DEPUTY D TAGS: PFOR, PINR, PINT, PGOV, IT, (DE CAROLIS)

To: STATE ROME

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